

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Prince William Forest  
Park

18100 Park Headquarters Rd.  
Triangle, VA 22172

Superintendent's Compendium  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary

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The following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of Prince William Forest Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. These are in accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7, authorized by Title 16, United States Code, Section 3. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, are required by Section 1.5(c) and appear in this document in *italicized* print.

for George Liffert 8-19-14  
Approved By: Vidal Martinez Date  
Superintendent

George Liffert 8-19-14  
Recommended By: George Liffert Date  
Deputy Superintendent

Cynthia Sirk-Fear 8/19/14  
Recommended By: Cynthia Sirk-Fear Date  
Chief Ranger

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. What is the Superintendent's Compendium?**

The Prince William Forest Park's Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under the discretionary authority of the park Superintendent. It serves as public notice with an opportunity for public comment, identifies areas closed for public use, provides a list of activities requiring either a special use permit or reservation, and elaborates on those public use and resource protection regulations that pertain to the specific administration of the park. It does not contain those regulations found in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and other United States Codes (U.S. C.) and CFR Titles which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

The regulations contained in Title 36 CFR Parts 1-7 are the basic mechanism used by the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and to protect visitors and property within the park. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the National Park System, and Part 7 contains special regulations specific to individual parks. Each of these Parts has many sections and subsections articulating specific provisions. Within some of these Part 1-7 sections and subsections, the Superintendent is granted discretionary authority to develop local rules to be responsive to the needs of a specific park resource or activity, park plan, program, and/or special needs of the general public.

This compendium should be used in conjunction with Title 36 CFR, Sections 1-7 to more fully understand the regulations governing the use and enjoyment of all the areas of the National Park System.

### **B. What laws and policies allow the Superintendent to develop this Compendium?**

The NPS is granted broad statutory authority in 16 U.S.C. Section 1 et seq. (National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended) to "... regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations ... by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks ... which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment for future generations" (16 U.S.C. Section 1).

In addition, the Organic Act allows the NPS, through the Secretary of the Interior, to "make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the use and management of the parks, monuments, and reservations under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service" (16 U.S.C. Section 3).

In 1970, Congress amended the NPS Organic Act to clarify its intentions as to the overall mission of the NPS. Through the General Authorities Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. Sections 1 a1 - 1 a8), Congress brought all areas administered by the NPS into one National Park System and directed the NPS to manage all areas under its administration consistent with the Organic Act of 1916. In 1978, Congress amended the General Authorities Act

of 1970 and reasserted System wide the high standard of protection defined in the original Organic Act by stating "Congress further reaffirms, declares, and directs that the promotion and regulation of the various areas of the National Park System, as defined by Section 1 of this Title, shall be consistent with and founded in the purpose established by Section 1 of this Title, to the common benefit of all people of the United States." 16 U.S. C. Section 1c defines the National Park System as" ... any areas of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes."

Title 36 CFR Section 1.7(b) requires the Superintendent to compile in writing all the designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions imposed under discretionary authority. This compilation, called the Superintendent's Compendium, shall be updated annually and made available to the public upon request. In addition to the above statutory authority, the Superintendent is also guided by established NPS policy as found in the NPS Management Policies (2001). As stated in this policy document, the primary responsibility of the NPS is to protect and preserve our national natural and cultural resources while providing for the enjoyment of these resources by visitors and other users, as long as use does not impair specific park resources or overall visitor experience. The appropriateness of any particular visitor use or recreational experience is resource based and will vary from park to park; therefore, a use or activity that is appropriate in one park area may not be appropriate in another. Each park Superintendent is directed to analyze overall park use and determine if any particular use is appropriate. Where conflict arises between use and resource protection, where the Superintendent has a basis to believe a resource is or would become impaired, then that Superintendent is obliged to place limitations on public use.

### **C. Does this Compendium comply with applicable Federal law and requirements?**

The Superintendent's Compendium is not considered a significant rule requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. This Compendium is in compliance with all regulations and delegated authority provided by Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7 authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3.

### **D. How are the requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium developed?**

As outlined above, the NPS has broad authority and responsibility to determine what types of uses and activities are appropriate in any particular National Park System area. The requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium are developed through an analysis and determination process for that particular NPS area. The decision criteria used during this process are:

- Is the use or activity consistent with the National Park Service Organic Act and NPS policy?
- Is the use or activity consistent and compatible with the park's enabling legislation, management objectives, and corresponding management plans?
- Will the use or activity damage or impair the park's protected natural and cultural resources and other protected values?

- Will the use or activity disturb or be in conflict with wildlife, vegetation, and environmental protection actions and values?
- Will the use or activity conflict with or be incompatible with traditional park uses and activities?
- Will the use or activity compromise employee or public safety?

**E. Where does this Compendium apply?**

The regulations contained in this Compendium apply to all persons entering, using, visiting or otherwise within the boundaries of federally owned lands and waters administered by the NPS as part of Prince William Forest Park.

**F. Who enforces the requirements of this Compendium?**

Only NPS Law Enforcement Park Rangers or a crossed designated Law Enforcement Officer can enforce the requirements of the United States Code, CFR Titles, and this Superintendent's Compendium. However, many Federal laws and regulations have similar statutes found in State and local law. Many of the requirements of this Compendium complement existing State and local law and regulations which are also in effect within the park and enforced by State and local law enforcement officers.

**G. Is there a penalty for not adhering to the requirements found in this Compendium?**

A person who violates any provision of the regulations found in Title 36 CFR Parts 1-7, along with this compendium, is subject to a fine as provided by law (18 U.S.C. 3571) up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months (18 U.S.C. 3559), or both, and shall be adjudged to pay all court costs associated with any court proceedings.

## **36 CFR § PART 1 –GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **§1.5 –Closures and Public Use Limits**

- (a) Consistent with applicable legislation and Federal administrative policies, and based upon a determination that such action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities, the superintendent may:

(1) Establish, for all or a portion of a park area, a reasonable schedule of visiting hours, impose public use limits, or close all or a portion of a park area to all public use or to a specific use or activity.

#### **Hours of Operation For Park Grounds and Facilities:**

Unless otherwise designated, all park areas including buildings, roads, trails, and other public use facilities and areas are closed 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes prior to sunrise. Service employees conducting official business, those with a valid scientific research permit, park residents and their invited guests, groups or persons legally camping are exempt, and those with a valid Special Use Permit. After dark, campers must restrict activities to their campgrounds and may use only those park roads and trails that are necessary for access to those campgrounds. All other trail use is prohibited.

The Visitor Center is open seven days a week from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. The Visitor Center will be closed on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas and at other times as designated by the Superintendent.

Park Headquarters is open 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is closed Saturdays and Sundays and all Federal holidays.

The park maintenance area is closed to the public at all times except for those persons conducting official business during normal operating hours between 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is closed Saturdays, Sundays and all Federal holidays.

The following addresses and associated structures and grounds are closed for general use:

- 15219 Nottingham Dr. Manassas VA
- 15309 Nottingham Dr. Manassas VA
- 17415 Mine Rd. Dumfries VA
- 17409 Mine Rd. Dumfries VA
- 16308 Dumfries Road Dumfries, VA
- 16150 Pleasant Road Dumfries, VA
- 18020 Park Headquarters Road Triangle, VA
- 17225 Mawavi Road Triangle, VA
- 5425 Turkey Run Road Triangle, VA
- 15214 Nottingham Dr. Manassas VA

- 14804 Bristow Road Manassas VA

### **Seasons of Operation for Campgrounds and Cabin Camps**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Closed</b>
Cabin Camp 1	April	October
Cabin Camp 2	April	October
Cabin Camp 3	April	October
Cabin Camp 4	April	October
Cabin Camp 5	No Closure	No Closure
Oak Ridge Campground*	March-November	December 1-February 28
Turkey Run Ridge Group Campground*	No Closure	No Closure
Chopawamsic Backcountry Area	March-November	December 1-February 28

**\*May be closed periodically due to weather and road conditions. A, B, and C Loops have seasonal restrictions on use.**

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The closures are necessary for public safety when inclement weather is not conducive to visits and to protect the park's cultural and natural resources from damage, vandalism, and destruction. Closures may also occur without advance notice at the discretion of the Superintendent for fiscal reasons.*

### **Park Roads- Closures and Bicycle Use**

**Park Headquarters Road** – traffic and use is restricted to administrative use, park residents, and for those persons conducting official business during normal business operating hours.

**Carters Road** - traffic and use is restricted to administrative use, park residents, and for those persons conducting official business during normal business operating hours.

**Administrative Use Only Roads** – the following roads are limited to administrative use for those persons conducting official business during normal business operating hours, and those with a special use or scientific research permit: Mawavi Road (Scenic to bridge), Pleasant Road, Old Black Top Road, Liming Lane, Taylor Farm Road, Burma Road, Spriggs Lane Fire Road, Lake One Road, Pyrite Mine Road, North Orenda Road, South Orenda Road, Lykes Fire Road

**Pyrite Mine Bridge** – this bridge is closed to all vehicular & equipment traffic & use.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Measure is required to protect government property, facilities, employees, visitors, and wildlife. Pyrite Mine Bridge is closed indefinitely due to identified structural deficiencies.*

## **Roadways:**

Scenic Drive- Open year round depending on weather

Turkey Run Road- Open year round depending on weather

Telegraph Road- Closed from November 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>

Unpaved Roads- Closed to motorized traffic (except as noted above for Administrative Roads).

Bicycles are allowed on: Established public roads, Administrative roads and Muschette Trail.

**Use of Remote control cars:** is permitted on Administrative roads and picnic areas. They are not permitted on roadways within the park or along the shoulders of roadways. They may not be used in wooded areas off road.

## **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*All park roads are subject to closure due to inclement weather. Bicycle use is limited to established public roads and unimproved roads. Hiking trails are closed to bicycle use. Resource sensitive areas may be temporarily closed to all modes of traffic on a case-by-case basis. (Ref. 36 CFR § 4.30) Closures may also occur without advance notice at the discretion of the Superintendent for fiscal reasons. Remote Control cars can cause resource damage in wooded areas and can interfere with vehicular traffic on paved roads.*

## **Unmanned Aircraft:**

Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft from, or on, lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Prince William Forest Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the Superintendent.

“Unmanned Aircraft” is defined as a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quad copters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

## **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Allowing the use of unmanned aircraft before the park has properly evaluated whether this use is appropriate could result in unacceptable impacts to park natural and cultural resources, park values, and visitor safety. The park is adjacent to Quantico Marine Corps Base which has its own security and airspace restrictions. In accordance with NPS Management Policies 2006, 8.2.2 Recreational Activities, a new form of park use may be allowed **only** after a determination has been made in the professional judgment of the Superintendent that it will not result in the above mentioned outcomes. This interim policy is necessary because less restrictive measures would not prevent the associated impacts to viewsheds, historic cabin camp structures, soundscapes and unreasonable noise, and disruption to wildlife, such as migratory birds. In addition, Prince William Forest Park has been designated a Historic District and is listed on the Secretary of Interior's National Register of Historic Places.*

**Passenger Carrying Buses:**

Engines must be shut down when parked for a period of more than five minutes.

All motor vehicle engines must be shut down when parked for a period of more than five minutes at the Visitor Center and in the TREC parking lot. This also includes Oakridge and Turkey run campground during quiet hours from 10:00pm – 08:00am.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The idling of bus and vehicle engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment by visitors of the peace and tranquility of the park.*

**Generators:** Generators may be used in developed campgrounds between the hours of 8:00 a.m. 10:00 p.m. The use of generators in park campgrounds during times other than listed above is prohibited except when a waiver has been granted for the powering of medical equipment.

Chopawamsic Backcountry is closed to the use of portable generators.

The use of generators at all other locations and times is prohibited unless by Special Use Permit or administrative use of the NPS.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The prolonged use of generators in campgrounds areas adds significant disturbance to an otherwise peaceful park setting and disrupts the visitor experience. This measure provides for a reasonable opportunity to charge batteries and perform essential functions.*

**Park Waters:**

In accordance with the provisions outlined in Title 36 CFR §3.16 (a)(2) of this compendium, the areas designated for swimming for permit holders are: Lakes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. (*Note: Lakes 2 and 5 are the same body of water; there are, however, two developed swimming areas in that lake. The developed swimming areas, 2, 4 and 5, feature floating docks.* )

Diving is strictly prohibited within the park. This includes, but is not limited to, diving from any structure or natural feature upon the water or shoreline.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Climbing on and or jumping from any structure or natural feature into the water is a high-risk activity, and unnecessarily jeopardizes the safety of visitors.*

All park waters are closed to bathing and washing for humans and pets in accordance with §3.16 (a)(2).

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The introduction of soaps, creams, chemicals which may contain organic and inorganic compounds, or a substance labeled as biodegradable may cause damage to aquatic ecosystems and wildlife.*

In accordance with §3.18, all park waters are closed to snorkeling and underwater diving except by a Special Use Permit.

In accordance with §3.19, all park waters are closed to the use of manned and unmanned submersible devices except by a Special Use Permit.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Snorkeling and underwater diving activities have inherent risks. To provide for public safety, reduce visitor use conflicts, and regulate locations used for such activities, a Special Use Permit shall be required by the Superintendent.*

**Geocaches:**

Only National Park Service approved “Geocache” or “Letterbox” sites issued by the Superintendent as a Special Use Permit are allowed. (Note: See the Visitor Center staff for coordinates for any approved Geocache or Letterbox sites.) [Refer to Section 7.96]

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The placement of geocaches and the placement of objects, within the Park is a prohibited activity based upon potential negative impacts on natural and cultural resources. The negative impacts of concern include: digging holes to bury caches, manipulating vegetation and geological formations to conceal caches, disturbing underground cultural and/or archeological resources, and the creation of unauthorized social trails.*

**Areas:**

Entering and exiting the park by other than designated roads and trails or other designated public access points without a permit is prohibited.

Utility and pipeline corridors and/or facilities within the park are closed to the public except where marked as trails. The portion of the Columbia Gas right of way that extends from Pleasant Road east to the park boundary is considered an authorized public access corridor.

**Determination of Closure/Limitations:**

*Measure is required to provide for visitor safety, resource protection and to prevent facility tampering and to provide for alarm responses.*

**Closures:**

The following areas are closed to the public:

- All areas signed or posted as "Closed," "Area Closed," "Restricted Access," "Authorized Vehicles/Personnel Only", or "Permitted campers only".

All dams within the park are also closed to foot and bicycle traffic.

**Determination of Closure/Limitations:**

*Measure is required to protect government property and facilities and the privacy of groups using the Cabin Camps.*

### **Camping and picnic areas:**

Please refer to §2.10 of this compendium for specific camping area designations.

Except in an emergency, the following areas are closed to public access except for valid permit holders or registered guests, and persons conducting official business:

- Cabin Camp 1 to include Pleasant Road past the intersection with Burma Road
- Cabin Camp 2 to include Mawavi Road from Joplin to the Quantico creek
- Cabin Camp 3
- Cabin Camp 4 to include Pleasant Road past the intersection with Burma Road
- Cabin Camp 5 to include Mawavi Road from Joplin to the Quantico creek
- Oak Ridge Campground
- Turkey Run Ridge Campground
- Prince William Forest RV Park
- Chopawamsic Backcountry Area

The superintendent may close any area without notice due to emergency conditions.

Oak Ridge Campground Comfort Station in A Loop is closed from November 1st to April 15th. C Loop Comfort Station will remain closed until further notice. Loop C will be closed to camping from November 1st to April 15th.

Telegraph Road and Pavilion will close from November 1st to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April. The Telegraph Comfort Station will only be open during those times the pavilion has been reserved. Exception to this is by special use permit for an approved event.

Pine Grove Comfort Station will close from November 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Due to low visitation and use, Oak Ridge Campground A Loop comfort station will be seasonally closed; Camping is an intensive use of park resources. All camping regulations are in effect to protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and the recreational enjoyment of the park by visitors. Limitations on camping seek to achieve this protection while providing an equitable allocation of camping opportunities to the public. Areas may be closed without advance notice due to weather or other determined emergency conditions.*

### **Parking:**

Public parking ends at dusk except in designated camps and camping areas as a condition of permitted occupancy.

Overnight parking without a permit or in violation of the conditions of that permit are prohibited.

Parking in any location other than designated parking spots is prohibited. This includes the shoulder of the roadway, grass areas, and in and around campsites.

Parking within 15' of fire hydrants is prohibited.

Parking in front of gates or blocking roadways is prohibited.

### **Balloons**

Helium filled balloons are prohibited in all park areas including cabin camp areas except in building and vehicle interiors. Release of helium filled balloons is prohibited.

### **Determination of Closure/ Limitations:**

*Measure is required to protect wildlife that may encounter and become entangled with or swallow punctured balloons.*

### **Golf**

All park areas are closed to recreational golf, golf practice, and the hitting of golf balls.

### **Determination of Closure/ Limitations:**

*Not all recreational activities are compatible in the park. Golf as a recreational activity in developed areas poses safety risks to park visitors and has the potential to cause damage to park and private structures, and vehicles. Un-retrieved and/or 'lost' golf balls created a littering issue upon the natural landscape.*

### **Horseshoes**

The pitching/throwing of horseshoes is permitted at the following designated park provided horseshoe pits:

- Williams Ballfield
- Pine Grove Picnic Area
- Oakridge campground

The remainder of the park area is closed to this activity unless authorized by the Superintendent in advance and in writing.

### **Determination of Closure/ Limitations:**

*Not all recreational activities are compatible in the park. Horseshoes as a recreational activity in developed areas poses safety risks to park visitors and has the potential to cause damage to park and private structures, and vehicles.*

### **Hash House Harrier Games**

The establishment of Hash House Harrier and similar and related activities involving marking of trails and resources is prohibited in the park except by Special Use Permit.

### **Determination of Closure/ Limitations:**

*Not all recreational activities are compatible in the park. Hash House Harrier and similar and related games and activities can cause damage to natural and cultural resources as it is the nature of the activity to go off established trails and routes. The use of 'clue' material may also damage natural and cultural resources and/or wildlife and may cause concern to visitors and park staff as the 'clue' material is not readily identifiable. In addition, consumption of alcohol is only permitted in specific locations within the park.*

### **Vehicles**

Washing, repair, or maintenance of vehicles belonging to visitors (other than short-term emergency repairs) in public areas within the park is prohibited.

### **Determination of Closure/Limitations:**

*Measure is required to protect park's water supply and to prevent gray water and toxic substances being released into natural areas.*

### **Paint**

Possession of spray paint containers outside of motor vehicles is prohibited except by park residents at their residence, authorized park employees or contractors, or by special use permit conditions.

### **Determination of Closure/Limitations:**

*Measure is required to limit vandalism of park property.*

### **Animals/Pets**

All park areas are closed to wildlife kept as pets that may be considered venomous or otherwise dangerous to the public.

The following areas are closed to pets (except for those aiding persons with disabilities): the Chopawamsic Backcountry Area, Turkey Run Ridge Campground, in any public building, or in any Cabin Camp, except by authorized permit.

All park areas are closed to the use of electronic control devices (ECDs) as a means of controlling a pet. Pets must be managed as per §2.15 Pets.

### **Determination of Closure/Limitations:**

*Consistent with public health and safety, and the protection of natural and wildlife resources, animals/pets must be restricted. The use of electronic control devices (ECDs) is not a substitute for an actual physical restraint for pets and does not meet the conditions as set forth in 36 CFR §2.15.*

## **§1.6 Permits**

To obtain Scientific Research and Collecting Permits please apply as follows:

1. Apply online at [www.science.nature.nps.gov/research](http://www.science.nature.nps.gov/research)
2. Contact the Resource Management Office at 703-221-4706 ext. 273 or e-mail [prwi\\_resource\\_management@nps.gov](mailto:prwi_resource_management@nps.gov)

For all other activities that may require a permit, please refer to section §7.96 – Activities That Require a Permit.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The collection or possession of any plant, animal, artifact, rock, mineral or any and all natural or cultural resource may be authorized for scientific and management research purposes. The Superintendent has determined that collection of these resources may affect reproduction of plant or animal species or other park resources. The Superintendent may issue a permit authorizing the collection of plant, fish, or geological resources when the permit request is accompanied by a written research proposal and the Superintendent determines that the collecting will benefit science and or improve the management of protection of park resources.*

## **36 CFR § PART 2 –GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **§2.1 – Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources**

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following is prohibited:
  - (1) Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging, or disturbing from its natural state:
    - (i) Living or dead wildlife or fish, or parts or products thereof, such as antlers or nests.
    - (ii) Plants or the parts or products thereof.
    - (iii) Non-fossilized and fossilized paleontological specimens, cultural or archaeological resources or the parts thereof.
  - (2) Introducing wildlife, fish, or plants, including their reproductive bodies, into a park area ecosystem.
  - (4) Using or possessing wood gathered from within the park area: *Provided however*, that the superintendent may designate areas where dead wood on the ground may be collected for use as fuel for campfires within the park area.
  - (6) Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging, or disturbing a structure or its furnishings or fixtures.
  - (7) Possessing or using a mineral or metal detector, magnetometer, side scan sonar, other metal detecting device, or subbottom profiler.

## **The importation of wood, for use in campfires, from outside of the park boundary is prohibited.**

### **Firewood**

Wood within the park will not be cut, collected or removed for any reason except within Oak Ridge Campground, Turkey Run Ridge Campground, and all Cabin Camps where dead and down wood less than 6 inches in diameter that can fit within the fire rings may be collected for use and consumption during a stay with a valid permit. Use of power tools such as chainsaws is prohibited.

The possession of any firewood originating from any location for which federal or state firewood quarantine is in effect is prohibited. This closure prohibits the movement of firewood into the park from counties adjacent to the park for which a federal or state quarantine is in place even if the quarantine allows for movement within the county. See exception below. ("Buffer areas are not considered quarantined.") Firewood in violation of the above shall be burned immediately by the camper in established fire rings. Failure to comply with this action may result in a citation and/or seizure of firewood.

Prince William Forest Park considers firewood to be any wood cut, sold or intended for use as firewood, including chips, limbs, branches, etc. with or without bark. Kiln-dried, finished and cut lumber or lumber scraps from which the bark has been removed during the milling process and like that purchased from a hardware store or discarded at construction sites, is not considered firewood.

Exception: Firewood which is in the original packaging and is accompanied by a certificate or limited permit issued and attached in accordance with 7 C.F.R. § 301.53-5 and 7 C.F.R. § 301.53-8 is allowed even if purchased from a vendor in a quarantined area, or wood that has been approved for use by park administration. Firewood that is certified as pest free from the United States Department of Agriculture is allowed and pre-cut wood may be available to the campers.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*This closure is intended to prevent or slow the introduction of exotic insects or diseases into Prince William Forest Park. The emerald ash borer (EAB) has already killed tens of millions of trees in those states that have been infested. As a result, the movement of firewood within and from infested areas is regulated by the states and the federal government. The USDA has documented that a number of other harmful species can be transported in firewood.*

### **Plant Collection**

Edible fruits, nuts, berries and mushrooms may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption. Possession quantities for edible mushrooms and unshelled nuts are limited to one dry quart per person per day. Possession quantities for fruits and berries are limited to one dry pint per person per day. Removal of fruits, nuts, berries and mushrooms cannot disturb the remainder of the plant. *Note: 'dry' refers to a quantity of uncrushed fruits or berries.*

Examples which may be gathered include:

- Morel mushrooms (*Morchella* spp.)
- blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.)
- strawberries (*Fragaria virginiana*)
- blackberries/raspberries/wineberries (*Rubus* spp.)
- grapes (*Vitis* spp.)
- elderberries (*Sambucus pubens*) .
- gooseberries/currants (*Ribes* spp.)
- huckleberries (*Gaylussacia* spp.) .
- cherries/plums (*Prunus* spp.) .
- serviceberries (*Amelanchier laevis*)
- persimmons (*Diospyros virginiana*)
- black walnuts (*Juglans nigra*)
- hickory nuts (*Carya* spp.)
- American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
- apples (*Malus* spp.) or (*Pyrus* spp.)
- pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)

Gathering of mushrooms for commercial use is prohibited.

All other plant and animal species (such as, but not limited to: conifer cones, fungi, lichens and "fiddle-head" ferns or other plant material, are closed to harvesting.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Limit is required to assure that gathering does not adversely affect the reproductive potential of the plant species or any other park resource.*

*Removal of cones, fungi, fiddle heads is in violation of 36 CFR § 2.1 (a)(1)(ii) —Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging, or disturbing from its natural state plants or the parts or products thereof. Limited collection of fruits, berries, and nuts is exempt from this restriction because the CFR provides the superintendents an avenue for permitting such activity and park managers have determined that collection of these items are not detrimental to future populations.*

**Sign Posting**

Per 36 CFR§ 2.1, (a)(1)(ii); Posting of signs, notices and similar devices shall not be attached to park vegetation.

Per 36 CFR§ 2.1, (a)(6); Posting or attaching of signs to park cabins and related structures is prohibited as they are historic and cultural resources.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Posting signs to park vegetation or park cabins and related structures can cause damage to the natural or cultural resource.*

## **§2.2– Wildlife Protection**

- (a) The following are prohibited:
- (1) The taking of wildlife, except by *authorized* hunting and trapping activities.
  - (2) The feeding, touching, teasing, frightening, or intentional disturbing of wildlife nesting, breeding, or other activities.
  - (3) Possessing unlawfully taken wildlife or portions thereof is prohibited.
- (d) The transporting of lawfully taken wildlife through the park is permitted under the following conditions and procedures:
- With a special use permit which specifically provides for the transportation of lawfully taken wildlife.
  - By park residents to their quarters.

### **Tracking of Wounded Wildlife Into the Park**

Per 36 CFR 2.2(4)(d), the tracking of wounded wildlife into the park and removal, which was lawfully taken outside of park boundaries, is prohibited unless accompanied by a commissioned park ranger. The ranger on site may terminate the search if the animal is not located within a reasonable amount of time as determined by the ranger.

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The park does not wish to impede those hunting legally in jurisdictions outside the park, nor the transportation of legally taken game. However, the transportation of game through the park, an area closed to hunting, has elicited visitor complaints and could cause confusion with the park's hunting regulations if not managed in this manner.*

### **Spotlighting/Artificial Light**

Per 36 CFR 2.2(4)(e), The viewing of wildlife by artificial light (spotlighting, including redirection of vehicle headlights) is prohibited park-wide, except as authorized under a valid NPS research permit. **Note: Night vision devices are not artificial lights, however, infrared lighting, beams are.**

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Viewing of wildlife with an artificial light disturbs normal activities of certain animals and greatly facilitates poaching.*

## **§2.3– Fishing**

- (a) Except in designated areas or as provided in this section, fishing shall be in accordance with the laws and regulations of the state within whose exterior boundaries a park

area or portion thereof is located. Non-conflicting state laws are adopted as a part of these regulations.

- Fishing is in accordance with Virginia State Fishing Regulations
- **Northern Snakehead shall be killed and removed from the park when caught by anglers within the National Park area. A report to Park staff of the location caught and size of fish shall be made as soon as possible. Notification may be made by e-mail to: [prwi\\_resource\\_management@nps.gov](mailto:prwi_resource_management@nps.gov), by phone to 703-221-4706 ext. 273, or fax to 703-221-2104.**

(d) The following are prohibited:

- (1) Fishing in fresh waters in any manner other than by hook and line, with the rod or line being closely attended.
- (2) Possessing or using as bait for fishing in fresh waters, live or dead minnows or other bait fish, amphibians, nonpreserved fish eggs or fish roe, except in designated waters. Waters which may be so designated shall be limited to those where non-native species are already established, scientific data indicate that the introduction of additional numbers or types of non-native species would not impact populations of native species adversely, and park management plans do not call for elimination of non-native species.
- (3) Chumming or placing preserved or fresh fish eggs, fish roe, food, fish parts, chemicals, or other foreign substances in fresh waters for the purpose of feeding or attracting fish in order that they may be taken.
- (4) Commercial fishing, except where specifically authorized by Federal statutory law.
- (5) Fishing by the use of drugs, poisons, explosives, or electricity.
- (6) Digging for bait, except in privately owned lands.
- (7) Failing to return carefully and immediately to the water from which it was taken a fish that does not meet size or species restrictions or that the person chooses not to keep. Fish so released shall not be included in the catch or possession limit: *Provided*, That at the time of catching the person did not possess the legal limit of fish.
- (8) Fishing from motor road bridges, from or within 200 feet of a public raft or float designated for water sports, or within the limits of locations designated as swimming beaches, surfing areas, or public boat docks, except in designated areas.

(f) Authorized persons may check fishing licenses and permits; inspect creels, tackle and fishing gear for compliance with equipment restrictions; and inspect fish that have been taken for compliance with species, size and other taking restrictions.

Fishing while in possession of organic bait is prohibited which includes, but not limited to:

- Corn
- Cheese
- Dough compounds

- Worms
- Insects
- Chemicals, including pheromones, liquid scents and power baits.

Snagging fish by pulling or jerking a hook, lure, or other implement through the water.  
Fishing with more than one line per person.

## **§2.4– Weapons, Traps, and Nets**

**Persons legally possessing firearms must comply with all Virginia Laws pertaining to concealed and open carry within the park. The possession of concealed firearms is for personal protection only and does not allow for the use of a firearm for any other purposes within the National Park Service Area. Firearms are still prohibited within all facilities in the park to include Headquarters, the Visitor Center, and all other offices.**

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section the following are prohibited:

- (i) Possessing a weapon, trap, or net
- (ii) Carrying a weapon, trap, or net
- (iii) Using a weapon, trap, or net

(2)(i) Archery for the purposes of education, training, or practice may be permitted when such use is requested in writing to the Superintendent and approved through a Special Use Permit or other written determination.

(a)(3)(d) The superintendent may issue a permit to carry or possess a weapon, trap, or net under the following circumstances:

- (1) When necessary to support research activities conducted in accordance with § 2.5
- (d)(3) Weapons involved in interpretive demonstrations will be administered under NPS Directors Order and Reference Manual #6.

(a)(3)(e) Authorized Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers may carry firearms in the performance of their official duties.

(a)(3)(f) The carrying or possessing of a weapon, trap, or net in violation of applicable Federal and State laws is prohibited.

## **§2.10– Camping and Food Storage**

(a) The Superintendent may require permits, designate sites or areas, and establish conditions for camping.

### **Camping at Prince William Forest Park**

The sites and areas listed below have been designated for camping activities as noted. A permit system has been established for campgrounds or camping activities, and conditions for camping and camping activities are in effect as noted:

The minimum age for rental of a cabin camp facility or to reserve a campsite on recreation.gov is 18 years of age.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Cabin camp areas and facilities contain historic and non-historic structures, which if damaged may result in criminal penalties and/or monetary assessments for damage, clean-up, and/or restoration. Minors cannot be held legally liable in such instances nor be assessed for financial obligations. The cabin camp rental agreement is a legally binding contract for service.*

(b) The following are prohibited:

- (8) Failing to obtain a permit, where required.
- (10) Camping outside of designated sites or areas.

Camping is prohibited in any area unless specifically designated by the Superintendent. Camping is defined as erecting a tent or shelter of natural or synthetic material, preparing a sleeping bag, or other material for use, parking a motor vehicle, motorhome or trailer, or mooring a vessel for the apparent purpose of overnight occupancy

**Oakridge Campground:**

Loop A is available first come, first served basis. Loop A is a self-registration honor system at the campground entrance. Self-registration must occur within 1 hour of occupying the selected campsite. Site registration renewal must be done by 12:00pm daily.

Both B and C loops are by reservation only from the third Saturday in April through the last Saturday in October through [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov). During other times all Oakridge Campground sites are first come, first served.

In Oak Ridge Campground, tents must be within the bordered site area or within 40 feet of the parking pad. Where provided, tents must be placed on the tent pads.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*To prevent undue soil compaction and associated injury and death of plant life, camping is limited to tent pads provided for tent campers.*

Camping in C Loop at Oak Ridge Campground is restricted to tent camping only.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Campsites within C Loop provide a more rustic and natural setting for camping. The addition of RVs and motorhomes would detract from the desired visitor experience.*

In Oak Ridge Campground, sites A23, A25, C32 and C33 are handicapped accessible sites for physically challenged visitors and are posted with the international handicap parking symbol.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Providing designated sites for physically challenged visitors is a federal requirement. The sites have amenities which make them accessible for physically challenged persons and are located a short distance from comfort stations.*

**Turkey Run Group Campground:**

Turkey Run campsites are by reservation only through [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov).

Turkey Run Ridge Group Campground is restricted to tent camping only and all tents, dining flies, etc. must be within the designated bordered areas.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*To prevent undue soil compaction and associated injury and death of plant life, camping, and related activities, is restricted to the designated site area for group tent camping. Group size restrictions limit the development of satellite campsites and the damage and destruction of natural resources. Furthermore, to reduce group conflicts, to provide a sound and site buffer between group sites, to prevent sites from extending into one another, and to reduce the total area of soil compaction, the bordered areas for each group site limit group sizes.*

**General Campground:**

Hammock camping will be allowed in Oak Ridge, Chopawamsic and Turkey Run Ridge Campgrounds provided straps are used that are at least 1 ½" and they are not affixed to a tree less than 6" in diameter. Straps may not be attached to lantern poles. Ropes or similar material are not allowed for hanging anything to fixtures or trees. No more than 2 hammocks may be used in any one site.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The use of straps as noted above has not been shown to have detrimental effects on trees and tree bark.*

Checkout time at Oak Ridge Campground and Turkey Run Ridge Campground is 12 o'clock noon and camping fees for an additional night must be paid by that time. Campers arriving after 12 o'clock noon are required to pay for the site and display their permit receipts on their site posts within one hour of site occupancy.

Vehicles in all park campgrounds are restricted to parking pads or designated parking lots.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Requiring vehicles to occupy specific areas prevents damage to park resources from vehicle traveling on unstable grounds.*

**Chopawamsic Backcountry Area:**

Designated sites in Chopawamsic Backcountry Area are marked with a site post and tents must be pitched within twenty (20) feet of the post.

Permittees to the Chopawamsic Backcountry must display a park issued permit on the vehicle dashboard.

(b)(10) Sleeping in a vehicle in any parking lot, picnic area, or other area not designated for camping is prohibited; Sleeping in a vehicle in the Chopawamsic Backcountry parking lot is prohibited.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Sleeping in a vehicle is akin to car camping and therefore this activity is restricted to established and designated camping areas.*

**Public Use Limits of Campgrounds**

**Oak Ridge Campground:** Campsites are limited to six people per site. Loops A and B are limited to two tents and one dining canopy, or one recreational vehicle and one tent or dining canopy. Sites in Loop C are limited to two tents and one dining canopy. In all sites, the total footprint of all tents and canopies shall not exceed 200 square feet. The party size limit may be exceeded to include one immediate family unit.

All vehicles must park on the parking pad assigned to the campsite occupied and cannot extend onto the campsite or into the roadway.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Vehicles parked on the parking pad cannot extend into the roadway because they will block traffic flow and create safety hazards for drivers using the road.*

RVs and Motor homes must be of the size that all stabilization supports (wheels and support poles) will be on the parking pad and the vehicle will not extend into the roadway. Extension pull-out devices of RVs and motor homes must fit on and within the site pads provided.

Recreational vehicles are limited to 32 feet in length and 12 feet in height. Trailers and fifth wheels are limited to 26 feet in length and 12 feet in height.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The winding access roads in Oakridge Campground cannot safely accommodate recreational vehicles or trailers longer than the above dimensions.*

**Turkey Run Ridge Group Campground:**

At Turkey Run Ridge, maximum camper capacities for each site are as follows:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Group Capacity</u>
A	25
B	25

C	40
D	25
E	40
F	40

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Group sites are designed for group camping and the size is set to accommodate larger groups while still limiting impact to the resource.*

**Chopawamsic Backcountry Area:** Maximum daily capacities are as follows:

Sites 1-8 have a four (4) person maximum per camp site for overnight stay.

Day-use permits will be limited to ten passes per day with up to 4 people per group.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Campsite management is designed as a "dispersed concentration" system to minimize impacts to resource conditions and the backcountry visitor experience. Use of "pre-existing" campsites concentrates and minimizes camping impacts in "moderate- to high-use" backcountry areas. Use of 'designated' campsites concentrates and minimizes the spread of impacts in specific "high-use" areas or at sensitive resource sites with potential for significant impacts. Some areas are "closed" to backcountry camping to preserve special resource conditions and values.*

**Cabin Camp Maximum Occupancies:**

Cabin Camp Name	Camp #	Capacity	Check-In Time	Check-Out Time
Goodwill	1	151	1 p.m.	11 a.m.
Mawavi	2	148	4 p.m.	2 p.m.
Orenda, A unit	3, Unit A-1	4	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-2	4	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-3	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-4	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-5	4	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-6	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-7	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-8	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-9	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit A-9a	6	3 p.m.	12 noon
Orenda, B unit	3, Unit B-1	10	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit B-2	10	3 p.m.	12 noon
	3, Unit B-3	10	3 p.m.	12 noon
Orenda, C unit	3, C unit	78	2 p.m.	12 noon
Pleasant	4	200	2 p.m.	12 noon
Happyland	5	212summer 104 winter	3 p.m.	1 p.m.

## **Stay Limitations:**

**Oak Ridge Campground:** Campers may stay no more than a total of 14 days in a calendar year (January through December).

**Prince William Forest RV Campground:** Campers may stay no more than a total of 28 days in a calendar year (January through December). During the period from May 1 through September 30, camping is limited to a total of 14 days.

**Turkey Run Ridge Campground:** Campers may stay no more than a total of 14 days in a calendar year with no more than 7 consecutive days at any one time.

**Cabin Camps:** Overnight visits in Cabin Camp 3 A and B units are limited to 14 days per year.

**Chopawamsic Backcountry Area:** Campers may stay no more than a total of 14 days in a calendar year with no more than 7 consecutive days at any one time.

**Requests for exceeding these stay limitation may be approved on a case-by-case basis and must be submitted to the Superintendent in writing. Forms are available at the Visitor Center and Prince William Forest RV Campground office during normal operating hours.**

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Camping stay limitations are in effect as camping is deemed a short-term recreational activity and to limit the opportunity for individuals to reside in the park beyond that which would be a short-term recreational use.*

### **Food Storage**

Per 36 CFR § 2.10 (d), the superintendent may designate all or a portion of a park area where food, lawfully taken fish or wildlife, garbage, and equipment used to cook or store food *must be kept sealed in a vehicle*, or in a camping unit that is constructed of solid, non-pliable materials, or suspended at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from a post, tree trunk, or other object, or shall be stored as otherwise designated. *Violation of this restriction is prohibited.* This restriction does not apply to food that is being transported, consumed, or prepared for consumption.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Food scents attract animals. Animals which gain access to human food sources tend to return to those sources and may cause property damage or injury. Subsequent behavior problems often necessitate the removal or destruction of an animal.*

## **§2.11 – Picknicking**

**Areas Closed to Picnicking:** Day Use Picnicking is permitted in areas developed for public use in the park except in the following fee use areas: Oak Ridge, Turkey Run Ridge and Prince

William Forest RV Campgrounds; Cabin Camps; and Telegraph Pavilion when the pavilion is reserved {refer to Section 1.5(f)} for group use.

1. Picnicking shall be allowed in all areas except:
  - Within 100 feet of:
    - Structures or areas considered to be cultural or archeological resources
    - Research sites
    - Designated NPS Maintenance or administrative areas
    - Government owned housing (except by the permitted occupant)
  - When the activity would interfere with normal agency functions or visitor use activities already in progress.
  - In those areas closed to picnicking.
  - Those areas temporarily closed as determined by the Superintendent for safety reasons, so as not to interfere with temporary or short-term agency functions, or emergency.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Picnicking is restricted from those areas that would adversely impact the historic scene or interfere with the operations of the park. Large groups present potential problems with litter, parking and resource damage and for that reason group events will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.*

2. The “holding” or “reserving” of additional picnicking sites and or tables, within designated picnic areas, for other individuals, is prohibited. Large groups should consider using picnic shelters available by reservation.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The use of picnic sites and tables within designated picnic areas of the park are based on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals may not “hold” sites or tables for individuals or groups who are not on-site, when other picnickers have a desire to use the site or table. Large groups should consider using picnic shelters wherein reservations insure space availability.*

## **§2.12 – Audio Disturbances**

The following are prohibited:

(a)(3) Operation of any engine or device powered by a portable motor or device powered by engine or portable motor in non-developed areas is prohibited.

(a)(4) Operation of a public address system except in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §7.96.

## **§2.13 – Fires**

- (a) The following are prohibited:

(1) Lighting or maintaining a fire, except in designated areas or receptacles and under conditions that may be established by the superintendent.

**Designated Areas:**

1. In picnic areas and camping areas, contained fires are permitted in park-provided grills, camp stoves, and portable grills (noncombustible container with a minimum container depth of 2", enclosed sides, and a bottom) only.
2. Fires in cabin camps are permitted in park constructed council rings, fireplaces, and park-provided grills only.

**Established Conditions for Fires:**

1. Fires must be attended at all times. Fires with sustained flame lengths over 24 inches are prohibited.
2. Only wood or charcoal may be burned in cooking or warming fires within fire rings and park provided grills.
3. Fires must be extinguished according to the following conditions:
  - Fires must be completely out before departure from any campsite, cabin, picnic area or other approved area for fires.
4. High fire danger closures will be in effect as noted:
  - During Virginia state-imposed burn bans and periods of high fire danger open fires and charcoal fires are prohibited. The Superintendent may impose burn bans as needed according to local conditions.
  - During Virginia state-imposed burn bans and periods of high fire danger, only self-contained gas or liquid fuel grills and stoves are permitted, provided their features allow them to be immediately shut off.

**The following restrictions are in effect for the use of stoves or lanterns:**

- Lanterns are not to be attached or hung from trees or other vegetation in any manner.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The use of open fires in the park is regulated to protect human life, structures and natural resources. During extreme weather conditions, open-pit fires may be restricted to preclude the accidental ignition of wildfires. Backcountry campfires as constructed and maintained by most visitors are highly impacting to the resource. Use of campfires encourages removal of natural woody debris around the campsite which disturbs natural appearances and processes; causes heat damage to soil and vegetation, and promotes damage to or removal of live and dead standing trees. Use of campfires often leads to widespread construction of stone fire rings which are unnatural in appearance, concentrates visitor use and impacts by establishing campsites at inappropriate areas, and produces charcoal build-up in high-use areas. Campfires also contribute to human-caused wildland fires.*

## **§2.14 – Sanitation and Refuse**

- (a) The following are prohibited:
  - (1) Disposing of refuse in other than refuse receptacles.
  - (2) Using government refuse receptacles or other refuse facilities for dumping household, commercial, or industrial refuse, brought as such from private municipal property, except in accordance with conditions established by the superintendent.
  - (7) Disposing of fish remains on land or in waters within 200 feet of boat docks or designated swimming beaches, or within developed areas, except as otherwise designated.
  - (8) In developed areas, the disposal of human body waste, except at designated facilities.
  - (9) In non-developed areas, the disposal of human body waste within 100 feet of a water source, high water mark of a body of water, or a campsite within sight of a trail, except as otherwise designated.

### **Prince William as a trash free park**

Prince William Forest Park is a “trash free” area. Bags are located throughout the park and the visitor center for visitor convenience to enable them to remove trash generated within the park. Dumpsters may be provided at the discretion of the Superintendent in high visitation areas.

### **Determinations of Closure/Limits:**

*A “pack-in, pack-out” ethic is supported by the superintendent in alignment with environmental management initiatives of the federal government.*

### **Disposal of Human Waste**

- (b) Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste have been established as follows:
  - (1) Rest rooms, when available, must be used.

In non-developed areas more than a quarter of a mile from restroom facilities, human body waste must be buried four (4) to six (6) inches deep in organic soil in an area not frequented by the public, not visible from trails, campsites or developed areas, and at least 100 feet from any water source. During the winter when organic soil is not exposed, solid human body waste must be buried 100 yards from any campsite or established travel route to a depth of 12 inches in snow whenever possible.

### **Determinations of Closure/Limit:**

*Solid human waste can spread disease and must be disposed of away from water sources to minimize the potential for pollution. Burying of solid waste at least four inches in soil minimizes the potential for washing of waste material into nearby water sources and eliminates the visual impact and odor of human waste. Carrying out refuse minimizes the presence of litter to enhance the visitor backcountry experience and protects wildlife from the impacts of discarded food and potentially hazardous trash..*

## **§2.15 – Pets**

(a) The following are prohibited:

- (1) Possessing a pet in a public building, public transportation vehicle, or location designated as a swimming beach, or any structure or area closed to the possession of pets by the superintendent. This subparagraph shall not apply to service dogs accompanying qualified persons.
- (2) Failing to crate, cage, restrain on a leash which shall not exceed 6 feet in length, or otherwise *physically* confine the pet at all times.
- (3) Leaving pet unattended and tied to an object.
- (4) Allowing a pet to make noise that is unreasonable considering location, time of day or night, impact on park users, and other relevant factors, or that frightens wildlife by barking, howling, or making other noise.
- (5) Failing to comply with pet excrement disposal conditions which may be established by the superintendent.

(e) Park employees and volunteers who reside in the park are permitted to own no more than two pets, excluding fish and birds or other small caged animals, under the following conditions:

- The residence must not be shared with other non-family park employees.
- All other conditions set forth in §2.15 are adhered to.

## **1. Tethering pets**

(a)(3) Pets may be left unattended and tied to an object in the following areas, under the conditions noted:

- Tethered in a campsite for periods of less than one hour or in a vehicle with the windows open sufficiently for adequate ventilation, but to prevent the escape of the animal. Animals may not be tied to the outside of vehicles or tethered in parking lots.
- Pets may be tethered in developed areas, other than campsites for periods not to exceed one-half hour provided they are tied in such a manner that they cannot reach a walkway.
- Pets must be kept on a six-foot leash and *under physical control at all times* while visiting any area of the park. This prevents encounters between pets and wildlife, protects the pet from hazards, and prevents unwanted interactions between pets and other visitors.
- Pets on retractable leashes extended beyond 6' are in violation of 36 CFR §2.15 (a)(2).
- Domesticated animals that are hooved (such as pigs, horses, cows, etc.) are not allowed on park grounds.

(a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:

- In a developed area, all excrement must be immediately collected and disposed outside of the park per section 2.14 above or buried or as per section 2.14 above.

- In non-developed areas, all excrement must be removed from trails, shelters, huts or other public use area.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*These regulations are not intended to restrict pets from the park but rather to enhance the natural experience of all visitors. Pets have the potential to interfere with the safety of visitors and the natural resource and the enjoyment of others. Reasonable rules are necessary to provide for the well-being of all. Similarly, pets may be endangered by wildlife, cars, or careless tethering if not properly restrained and managed. Some trails and facilities are unsuitable for pets because of the high volume of visitor use, or sanitation concerns. Particularly in campgrounds improperly controlled pets can cause conflicts between visitors.*

## **§2.16 – Horses and Pack Animals**

- Horses and pack animals are strictly prohibited.
  - Pack animals are those animals used by humans as a means of transporting materials. Those animals include, but are not limited to: horses, mules, oxen, pigs, and goats.
  - Exceptions are for Law Enforcement purposes only.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Horses and pack animals can create resource and vegetative destruction. Their excrement can also bring non-native species of vegetation into the park.*

## **§2.17 – Aircraft and Air Delivery**

(c)(1) The removal of a downed aircraft, components, or parts thereof is allowed, subject to written authorizations from the superintendent, under the following terms and conditions:

- Anticipated method of removal.
- Date of work.
- Authorization of owner and/or insurance company.
- Release by the Virginia State Police, National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration.
- Items to be left, reasons for leaving items.
- Description of access points.
- Plans for removal and mitigation of biohazards and hazardous materials.
- Plans for financial restitution of damages to park resources and incident costs.
- Any other information deemed necessary to protect employee, visitor or resource safety.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*The superintendent, or acting designee, establishes procedures for the removal of an aircraft; establishes a timeframe for the removal; determines times and means of access to the site; and specifies the manner or method of removal. Removal of wreckage from the Park needs to be accomplished safely in a coordinated fashion with the least possible damage to Park resources.*

## **§2.18 – Snowmobiles**

- (c) The use of snowmobiles is prohibited.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Snowmobiles are loud and can frighten wildlife and can severely disrupt their normal living patterns.*

## **§2.19 – Winter Activities**

- (a) The following paved park roads and/or parking areas may be used for skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, sledding, inner-tubing, tobogganing, and similar winter activities under the conditions noted:

- Telegraph Road (when closed for winter storms)
- Telegraph Parking Area (when closed for winter storms)
- Scenic Drive from lot D past Oakridge Campground to Turkey Run road (when closed for winter storms)

*(Note: all other park-designated trails and fire roads are open to the above winter activities)*

- (b) The towing of persons on feet, skis, sled or other similar devices by motor vehicle is prohibited.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Towing individuals on feet, skis, sleds or other devices by motor vehicle drastically increases the likelihood of injury.*

## **§2.20 – Skating, Skateboards and Similar Devices**

The use of roller skates, skateboards, long boards, in-line skates, roller skis, scooters and similar coasting devices is prohibited park-wide except:

- Park residence areas.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Use is permitted in residential areas in order for employees and their families to engage in roller skating, skateboarding, and similar activities. Such use does not pose a threat to park resources or impose a risk to park visitors.*

The use of **Mobility Assistive Devices**, for the purpose of mobility assistance to impaired visitors, is permitted on the paved multi-use trail between parking lot D and Oak Ridge Road, and on Park Fire Roads. Use along other park roads and trails is prohibited.

## **§2.21 – Smoking**

- (a) Smoking is prohibited in/at the following areas:

- Smoking is prohibited in all public and concession buildings and within 25 feet of the entrance to all public buildings; all NPS and concession storage areas, all cabin camp buildings.
- All government-owned or leased motor vehicles, Fuel Storage Areas, and Fuel dispensing areas.

(b) Smoking is permitted:

- Single-family Permanent National Park Service employee residences not being used as dormitory quarters.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Federal regulations prohibit smoking within federal buildings, including within 25 feet of entryways. Smoking is further prohibited to protect park resources, reduce the risk of fire, or prevent conflicts among visitor use activities.*

## **§2.22 – Property**

(a) The following are prohibited:

- (1) Abandoning property.
- (2) Leaving property unattended for longer than 24 hours, except in locations where longer time periods have been designated or in accordance with conditions established by the superintendent.
- (3) Failing to turn in found property to the superintendent as soon as practicable.

The following describes areas where property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours, and the conditions under which property may be left:

- Visitors on authorized backcountry trips to Chopawamsic are permitted to leave unattended vehicles in the Chopawamsic parking area.
- Personal property may be left unattended at campgrounds for 24 hours without permission of the Superintendent but only with advance payment of that site for the unattended time.
- Personal property and vehicles may not be left in parking areas overnight without a permit and permission from a Law Enforcement Ranger.

**Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Except for vehicles/vessels left while the operator is in the backcountry on an overnight hike, there should be no reason for objects to be unattended for more than 24 hours.*

## **§2.23 – Recreation Fees**

(a) Recreation fees shall be established as provided for in Title 36 CFR part 71.

(b) Entering designated entrance fee areas or using specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or participating in group activities, recreation events, or other specialized recreation uses for which recreation fees have been established without paying the required fees and possessing the applicable permits is prohibited. Violation of the terms and conditions of a permit issued in accordance with Title 36 CFR part 71 is prohibited and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit.

(c) The superintendent may, when in the public interest, prescribe periods during which the collection of recreation fees shall be suspended.

- Collection of entrance fees shall be suspended on National Public Lands Day, the last Saturday in September.
- In 2014, this shall also include: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, National Park Week, August 25 National Park Service Birthday, and Veterans Day weekend

#### **Fee Areas at Prince William Forest Park**

Recreation fees, in accordance with Title 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation:

Entrance Fee Areas: All park areas with the exception of Cabins 1, 2, 4, & 5; *these visitors are subject to the entrance fee for any activities conducted outside of the designated camp area or when entering the park via Park Entrance Road for other uses and activities.*

As of January 1, 2014, park entrance fees are as follows:

- \$5 per vehicle for a seven-day entrance pass.
- \$3 per person on foot, bicycle, or motorcycle for a seven-day entrance pass.
- \$20 per person, with guests in vehicle, for an annual park pass.
- \$80 for “America the Beautiful” Interagency national fee area Annual Pass (Free for Active Duty Military & Dependents).
- \$10.00 for the Senior Pass (Lifetime, for persons 62 and up).
- Free Access Pass (Lifetime, for persons with a permanent disability).
- Free Volunteer Pass (Annual, for persons who volunteer more than 500 hours with the NPS).

### **Daily Site Use Fee Areas:**

Oak Ridge Campground is \$20.00 per site per day.

Turkey Run Ridge Campground is \$40.00 per site per day.

Telegraph Pavilion rental is \$80.00 per day.

Chopawamsic Backcountry requires an entrance fee only and key from the Visitor Center.

Camp Orenda (Cabin Camp 3) A- and B-units are rented by the individual cabin for family and small group use. For those cabins, rental rates are determined by cabin occupancy:

Cabins that sleep 4 are \$40.00 per night.

Cabins that sleep 6 are \$50.00 per night.

Cabins that sleep 10 are \$60.00 per night.

Group Camp reservations for the following cabin camps require a non-refundable \$25 application fee per application in addition to overnight use fees:

Camp Goodwill (Cabin Camp 1) rental is \$460 per night.

Camp Mawavi (Cabin Camp 2) rental is \$460 per night.

Camp Orenda (Cabin Camp 3) C-unit rental is \$300 per night.

Camp Pleasant (Cabin Camp 4) rental is \$500 per night.

Camp Happyland (Cabin Camp 5) rental is \$625 per night for spring, summer and fall.

Camp Happyland (Cabin Camp 5) rental is \$575 for winter.

Day use for all camps is \$200.00 per day.

### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Fees are applicable for expanded recreation amenities such as camping and rentals where general public use is restricted.*

## **§2.35 –Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

### **(a) Alcoholic beverages.**

(1) The use and possession of alcoholic beverages within park areas is allowed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) The following are prohibited:

(i) The sale or gift of an alcoholic beverage to a person under 21 years of age, except where allowed by State law. In a State where a lower minimum age is established, that age limit will apply for purposes of this subparagraph.

(ii) The possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under 21 years of age, except where allowed by State law. In a State where a lower minimum age is established, that age will apply for purposes of this subparagraph.

(3) (i) The superintendent may close all or a portion of a public use area or public facility within a park area to the consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or to the possession of a

bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or that has been opened, or whose seal is broken or the contents of which have been partially removed.

### **Areas of Prince William Forest Park Open to Alcoholic Beverages**

\*Cabin Camp group areas (to include Cabin Camp 3 Dining Hall) *only after an official Commonwealth of Virginia Alcohol and Beverage Commission permit has been issued.*

\*Oakridge Campground (within site)

\*Cabin Camp 3 (A and B unit within individual cabins only)

\*Personal residences within park

### **Areas of Prince William Forest Park Closed to Alcoholic Beverages**

In all other areas not specifically mentioned above, it is prohibited to consume alcoholic beverages including possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Due to the need to avoid incidents relating to the consumption of alcoholic beverages, to discourage underage drinking, to reduce hazards from broken glass and waste from discarded cans, and to reduce the potential for water emergencies at the unguarded lakes/ponds; alcohol consumption in certain areas of the park is deemed inappropriate.*

## **§2.62 –Memorialization**

(a) Erecting memorial structures requires approval from the Director of the National Park Service.

(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains in the following areas, and/or according to the following terms and conditions:

- The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized.
- The scattering of remains by persons on the ground is to be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or body of water.
- The scattering of remains from the air is to be performed at a minimum altitude of 2000 feet above the ground.
- No scattering of remains from the air is to be performed over developed areas, facilities, or bodies of water.
- Permits are required for ceremonies or assemblies that might conflict with normal park operations or result in impact to park resources.

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Scattering of cremated human remains is a reasonable accommodation to visitors and may not result in any negative resource impact.*

## **36 CFR § PART 3 –Boating and Water Use Activities**

### **§3.3 – Vessel Permits**

The term “vessel” means every type or description of craft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transporting on water, including a buoyant device permitting or capable of free flotation.

Permits are required for the use of a vessel within the following areas under the terms and conditions noted:

Vessel use is allowed by cabin camp groups only with a Certified Water Safety Instructor present. Water Safety Instructors must be identified on the camping permit. This certification must be forwarded to the park superintendent prior to water activities no less than 24 hours before taking place.

All other vessel use on lakes 1-5 is by permit only.

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*These areas are normally closed to public use. Requiring a permit allows for the regulation of these activities and assurance that safety measures are in place.*

### **§3.21 – Swimming and Bathing**

(a)(2) The following restrictions apply to all swimming and bathing activities:

Swimming is prohibited in Lakes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, except by permitted cabin camp groups with a certified lifeguard present. Lifeguards must be identified on the camping permit, and proof of certification submitted to the park in advance. *(Note: Lakes 2 and 5 are the same body of water; there are, however, two developed swimming areas in that lake. The developed swimming areas, numbered 2, 4 and 5, feature floating docks.*

Swimming in Carters Pond is prohibited.

Swimming at the Prince William Forest RV Park pool is restricted to registered guests only.

Approved swimming diapers must be worn by all age appropriate children utilizing the pool at Prince William Forest RV Park.

Wading in park streams is permitted.

**§3.17 Glass containers are prohibited at all designated swimming areas.**

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Discarded glass can break and cause injury to those recreating in swimming areas. Certified lifeguards ensure the safety of all those swimming and reduces the probability of injury or loss of life.*

## **36 CFR § PART 4 – Vehicles and Traffic Safety**

### **§4.10 – Travel on Park Roads and Routes**

(a) Operating a motor vehicle is prohibited except on paved park roads, in parking areas and on Administrative fire roads for NPS staff and those with a valid permit. Driving off roads or along the sides of roads within the park is prohibited.

Park roads open for travel by motor vehicle are indicated in the following publication:

- The Prince William Forest Park color brochure, official publication of the National Park Service.

The use of off-road vehicles is prohibited within the park with the exception of use by the NPS for administrative uses. This shall include ATVs, UTVs, and similar vehicles. Any other use must be requested in writing to the Superintendent including for use in Cabin Camps.

#### **Determination of Closure/Limit:**

*Vehicular travel on unimproved roads can cause significant resource damage, conflicts with agency functions, and cause visitor use impacts.*

### **§4.11 – Vehicle Load, Weight and Size Limits**

(a) The following load, weight and size limits, which are more restrictive than State law, apply to the roads indicated under the terms and conditions, and/or under permit as noted:

- Operating vehicles on park roads in excess of 10 tons gross weight and 32 feet in overall length is prohibited. Operating trailers in excess of 26 feet is prohibited. Service, emergency and contracting vehicles are exempt from this restriction with prior permission from the Superintendent.
- The historic wooden bridge at approximately MP 1.3 is restricted to 20 tons usage.

### **§4.21 – Speed Limits**

The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- 10 Miles per hour in all camp grounds and Cabin Camps; 5mph in Prince William Forest Park RV campground where posted.
- 15 mph at Park Entrance Road, at the Park Entrance Station, on roads in congested areas such as cabin camps, and on all gravel roads not otherwise posted.
- 25 mph on Scenic Drive Road, Headquarters Road, along winding stretches, and in congested areas.

- 35 mph on two way section of Scenic Drive from Oak Ridge Road to just prior to Turkey Run Ridge Road where posted to 25 mph.

#### **§4.30 – Bicycles**

- (a) Bicycle use is limited to established public roads, parking areas, and unimproved administrative roads. Unimproved roads open for travel to bicycles are designated in the Prince William Forest Park color brochure, official publication of the National Park Service. Bicycles are prohibited on trails.
- (c) Bicyclists must obey all motor vehicle traffic regulations, to include stop signs and speed limits.
- (3) Operating a bicycle abreast of another bicycle except where authorized by the superintendent is prohibited.

#### **§4.31 Hitchhiking**

- (a) Hitchhiking is prohibited on all park roads.

### **36 CFR § PART 5 –Commercial and Private Operations**

#### **§ 5.5 Commercial photography**

(a) *Motion pictures, television.* Before any motion picture may be filmed or any television production or sound track may be made, which involves the use of professional casts, settings, or crews, by any person other than bona fide newsreel or news television personnel, written permission must first be obtained from the Superintendent, in accordance with the provisions of the special regulations contained in part 5, subtitle A, title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) *Still photography.* The taking of photographs of any vehicle, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising without a written permit from the Superintendent is prohibited.

## **36 CFR § PART 7-Special Regulations, Areas of the National Park System**

### **§7.96 – Activities That Require a Permit From the Regional Director**

#### **(b) *Athletics***

(1) Permits for organized games. Playing baseball, football, croquet, tennis, and other organized games or sports except pursuant to a permit and upon the grounds provided for such purposes is prohibited.

(3) Ice Skating – Ice skating is prohibited except in areas and at times designated by the Superintendent. All park ponds and lakes are closed to ice skating.

#### **(g) *Demonstrations and special events***

(1) **Definitions.** The term “demonstrations” includes demonstrations, picketing, speechmaking, marching, holding vigils or religious services and all other like forms of conduct which involve the communication or expression of views or grievances, engaged in by one or more persons, the conduct of which has the effect, intent or propensity to draw a crowd or onlookers. This term does not include casual park use by visitors or tourists which does not have an intent or propensity to attract a crowd or onlookers.

(ii) The term “special events” includes sports events, pageants, celebrations, historical reenactments, regattas, entertainments, exhibitions, parades, fairs, festivals and similar events (including such events presented by the National Park Service), which are not demonstrations under paragraph (g)(1)(i) of this section, and which are engaged in by one or more persons, the conduct of which has the effect, intent or propensity to draw a crowd or onlookers. This term also does not include casual park use by visitors or tourists which does not have an intent or propensity to attract a crowd or onlookers.

(viii) The term “Regional Director” means the official in charge of the National Capital Region, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, or an authorized representative thereof.

(2) **Permit requirements.** Demonstrations and special events may be held only pursuant to a permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this section except:

(i) Demonstrations involving 25 persons or fewer may be held without a permit *provided* that the other conditions required for the issuance of a permit are met and *provided further* that the group is not merely an extension of another group already availing itself of the 25-person maximum under this provision or will not unreasonably interfere with other demonstrations or special events.

**The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit is required:**

- §1.5(a)(1) Events that exceed established capacities of cabin camps, of buildings or parts thereof, or of pavilions.

- §1.5(d) Canine training for the purposes of search and rescue, law enforcement, or guide dog services.
- §2.1(a)(1)(iv) Panning for gold or other minerals
- §2.1(a)(4) Collecting of wood/firewood, except in designated camping areas where wood less than 6 inches in diameter may be gathered for fuel
- §2.5(a) Collection of any specimens for research or for any other purposes
- §2.4(2)(i) Archery for the purposes of education, training, or practice
- §2.12(a)(2) Operating a chain saw in developed areas
- §2.12(a)(3) Operation of any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed areas.
- §2.12(a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §7.96.
- §2.17(c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft
- §2.60(b) Livestock use
- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands
- §2.62 Memorialization – Scattering ashes from human cremation
- §3.3 Use of a vessel on park impoundments
- §3.16 Swimming
- §3.18 Snorkeling and underwater diving
- §3.19 The use of manned or unmanned submersibles
- §4.11(a) Exceeding established vehicle load, weight and size limits
- §5.1 Commercial Advertisements - (Displaying, posting or distributing.)
- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.5(a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
- §5.5(b) Still photography of articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising
- §5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads
- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, paths/trails, structures, etc.
- §7.96 (c) Flying model airplanes, rockets, or other similar devices.
- §7.96 (g) Demonstrations and special events